1975-01

Naval Postgraduate School Department of Aeronautics Alumni Newsletter, January 1975

Monterey, California. Naval Postgraduate School

NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL

DEPARTMENT OF AERONAUTICS

A L U M N I N E W S L E T T E R

No. 1, January 1975, Monterey, California

This issue inaugurates an intended informative line of communication between the Department of Aeronautics and Aeronautical Engineering alumni of the Naval Postgraduate School, to be issued from time to time as seems pertinent.

A means such as this of keeping alumni abreast of the changes occurring within the Department and the School is long overdue. We are interested in your reactions and will welcome feedback. We hope also that this will provide you with updated information about the Postgraduate School to pass on to potential students. And we can help to inform you about career activities of fellow officers and classmates.

Since your response is indispensable to this endeavor, we offer on the last page the space in which to reply with news input, suggestions and/or questions. In particular, we are looking for a catchy name for this newsletter, in an aeronautical vein -- staid, or as wild as "Wing-wag Rag" -- and have provided space for your entry. If in addition you wish to contribute to the Admiral Moffett Trust Fund (see article on page 10), you may do so using the form at the bottom of that page.

Please address your correspondence to: Editor, Alumni Newsletter, Department of Aeronautics, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California 93940 (Autovon: 479-2312).

RICHARD W. BELL, Chairman
Department of Aeronautics

F L A S H !

AERO MINICOURSES REPLACE THE CORE -- PERMITTING ENROLLMENT ON ANY DATE

The "Common Core" is no more; it is being replaced by a preparatory phase of study packaged in self-paced format and tailored to individual student needs. An outstanding consequence is that enrollment at Monterey in Aero can now occur at any time -- not only in August or February as heretofore, or at the beginning of an academic quarter, but on any day of the year concomitant with the ending of an officer's assignment or operational commitment.

The subject matter of the Core has been divided into minicourses of approximately one academic credit each. Thirty-three minicourses replace the four-credit courses of the old Aero Core, permitting isolation of a minimal number

of prerequisites necessary for the ensuing graduate phase. Approximately twenty-four minicourses should satisfy this preparatory requirement, depending upon individual background or program. In addition, the equivalent of two four-credit courses in engineering mathematics are necessary preparation for the graduate curricula but not for the minicourses. The latter require only an acquaintance with basic derivatives, integrals and elementary vector algebra.

It will now be possible for students to move into the graduate phase within two academic quarters (half a year) from date of entry. Including the standard fifteen-month (five-quarter) graduate phase, the regular Monterey tour in Aero would then fit within twenty-one months from entry date, compared with twenty-five and one-half months heretofore. The graduate phase, it should be noted, incorporates Naval professional development courses extending beyond a nine-month residency requirement for the MSAE degree.

The Personalized System of Instruction (PSI) has been adopted for the self-paced format of the minicourses. This is not programmed learning nor is it to be confused with typical correspondence course structure. The student is given clearly stated performance objectives and must demonstrate mastery of each subunit in order to progress to the next, under tutorial guidance and without penalty for time spent or for initial difficulty or failure. Each student is thus proceeding individually through his preparatory phase, interfacing with his tutor and other students but independent of the others' progress. This is what makes it possible for students to enter the Aero curricula individually and on any day of the year, phasing into graduate courses on the academic quarter schedule according to individual plan.

The minicourses will be available off campus next summer (see accompanying article, page 6, on Continuing Education at NPS). An off-campus NPS selectee can pursue as many minicourses as are feasible for him (none, one or many) before reporting to NPS on his available date. He has a broad selection among the thirty-three courses, prerequisite interlocking among them being minimal. From among the thirty-three listings he can, with counseling, construct his own minimum requisite preparatory program consistent with requirements and interest, perhaps even validating some part. The materials of the remaining listings will always be available reference if or as needed later. Some of these materials could be useful to alumni, or to officers prior to selection for NPS. For a student without a baccalaureate, the entire material of the thirty-three listings satisfies an undergraduate major requirement in aeronautics subjects.

ALUMNI AS TUTORS

The PSI concept (see preceding article), to be offered off campus beginning next summer, hinges upon tutor availability. NPS Aero graduates can act in this role for off-campus students who are near enough at hand. Many of our current students are volunteering for tutor assignments at their next duty stations. We need to know how much alumni interest there is in this regard. You can obtain more information by checking the box provided on the last page of this newsletter.

CHANGES AT NPS

SUPERINTENDENT -- NPS ALUMNUS, 1956

On 28 June 1974 RADM Isham W. Linder, USN, relieved RADM Mason B. Freeman, USN, as Superintendent of the Naval Postgraduate School upon RADM Freeman's retirement.

A graduate of the Naval Academy (1946), RADM Linder studied electrical engineering at MIT for the BSEE (1949) and at NPS for the MSEE (1956). In 1961 he was awarded the PhD in Engineering Science from the University of California at Berkeley. He qualified as naval nuclear propulsion supervisor after study at the Naval and National Reactor Training Schools, Mare Island, and at the National Reactor Testing Station, Idaho.

A naval aviator, RADM Linder served with Patrol Squadron 21 and on the staff of Commander Amphibious Group 2, in the Atlantic, and as executive officer and commanding officer of Air Anti-Submarine Squadron 25, with the Pacific Fleet. He served as executive officer of USS Enterprise (CVAN-65), and commanded USS Cleveland (LPD-7) and USS Intrepid (CVS-11). He was assigned as Commander Cruiser Destroyer Flotilla 2 after promotion to flag rank. For three years before coming to NPS he was Head of CVA(N) -- Nuclear Powered Aircraft Carrier -- Coordination in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations.

PROVOST AND ACADEMIC DEAN

On 2 January 1974 Professor Jack R. Borsting was named to the post of Provost and Academic Dean, succeeding Dr. M. U. Clauser upon the latter's retirement. In 1970 the title of Provost was added to this post, recognizing that it is the highest civilian position at the Postgraduate School, with primary responsibility to the Superintendent for academic policies.

In 1959 Dr. Borsting joined NPS in mathematics after formal education which included BA, MA, and PhD degrees from Oregon State University. He was appointed Chairman of the Department of Operations Analysis in 1964. The Operations Research Department and the Administration and Economics Department were later merged into a new department of Operations Research and Administration Sciences with Professor Borsting as Chairman. Dr. Borsting is an expert in operations research and statistics and is currently President-elect of the Operations Research Society of America.

CHIEF OF STAFF -- NPS ALUMNUS, 1956

CAPT Dean Taylor, Jr., USN, reported to the School as Chief of Staff on 18 December 1974. CAPT Earl F. Godfrey, the former Chief of Staff, retired in August 1974.

CAPT Taylor is a 1947 graduate of the Naval Academy. He received an advanced science degree in chemistry from NPS in 1956 and the Doctoral degree in chemistry from Case Institute of Technology in 1960. A submariner, CAPT Taylor has served on the Pickerel, Guitarro and Menhadden; he has commanded the Barracuda and the Chara, and served as executive officer on the Fulton. Before joining the staff of the Postgraduate School in December, CAPT Taylor served on the Development Branch, Requirements and Developments Division of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He is a member of the American Association for Higher Education, the American Chemical Society, the U.S. Naval Institute and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

DEAN OF RESEARCH

Dr. Robert R. Fossum was appointed Dean of Research in November 1974, succeeding Dr. John M. Wozencraft who returned in July to his teaching and research at MIT and the Lincoln Laboratory. The position had been held by Professor Carl E. Mennekin of Electrical Engineering for fourteen years until he retired from it in 1972.

Dr. Fossum earned his PhD from Oregon State in statistics in 1969. He served in the Marine Corps from 1951-54. From 1969 until 1974 he was with ESL, Inc., most recently as Vice President and General Manager of their Electromagnetic Systems Laboratories specializing in strategic reconnaissance studies and analysis, hardware delivery and technical marketing.

DEAN OF EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Professor W. Max Woods has been appointed to the twin posts, established by the Superintendent on 31 May 1974, of Dean of Educational Development and Executive Director, Office of Continuing Education.

Dr. Woods received the PhD in mathematical statistics from Stanford in 1961 and joined the NPS faculty in 1962, teaching in both the Department of Mathematics and the Department of Operations Research. On 1 July 1972 he was appointed Chairman of the Mathematics Department, and was named to his present duties on 15 June 1974. He has the responsibility for developing and guiding a new effort at the School to provide extended educational services both on and off campus, especially through non-traditional approaches to educational packaging (See related article on page 6).

MILITARY FACULTY IN AERONAUTICS

CDR Harvey W. Burden, USN, joined the Aero faculty in August 1973. A Naval Aviator, he graduated with distinction from the Naval Academy in 1955. Following graduation from NPS in 1963 with distinction (BSAE), he received the degree of Aeronautical Engineer from Cal Tech in June 1964. He later pursued doctoral studies during off-duty hours, receiving the PhD from the University of Pennsylvania in 1969. He was designated an Aeronautical Engineering Duty Officer in 1963 and has held a variety of positions in research and development for naval aviation.

CDR David W. Caswell graduated with distinction from the Naval Academy in 1955 and completed the MSAE degree at NPS in 1969. He graduated from the Senior Course Naval War College, Newport, R.I., in June 1972 and received the Master of Science in International Relations from George Washington University in September, 1972. He has had Navy operational duty with six aviation squadrons, including a tour as carrier pilot in the bombing of North Vietnam. After serving as the Commanding Officer, Fleet Composite Squadron SEVEN, NAS Miramar, he joined the Aero faculty in November 1974.

AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERING CURRICULAR OFFICE

CAPT Donald W. Mathews, USN, has been the Curricular Officer for Aeronautical Engineering since July 1971. A graduate of the University of California at Berkeley, he was designated a Naval Aviator in 1954. He completed studies for the BSAE here at NPS in June 1960 and received the degree of Aeronautical Engineer from Stanford in 1961. He was an instructor in aeronautical engineering at the Naval Academy in 1966-68 before selection for Aeronautical Engineering duty.

Currently CAPT Mathews is serving also as Program Manager for Educational Counseling in the newly established Office of Continuing Education at NPS (see page 6), and is chairman of the Graduate Education Subcommittee for the Interservice Training and Review Program, coordinating efforts of the four services to improve graduate education programs and interservice cooperation. CAPT Mathews will assume the latter duties full time in January 1975, to be relieved as Curricular Officer by CDR James B. Poland, USN.

CDR James B. Poland, USN, reported to NPS in September 1971 as Assistant Curricular Officer for Aeronautical Engineering. Following graduation from the Naval Academy he was designated a Naval Aviator in 1954. Postgraduate education includes the Aero Curriculum at NPS and Management Curricula at NPS and the American University. He was awarded the Master of Science in Management from NPS in June 1974. Reporting to the Naval Academy as an instructor in June 1967 he later assumed duties as Co-Chairman of the Aerospace Engineering Department. CDR Poland is also Qualifications and Operations Officer in the Department's flying laboratory program, employing a leased Cessna 310 aircraft instrumented for instruction in flight evaluation techniques. In January 1975 CDR Poland will relieve CAPT Mathews as Curricular Officer.

Dr. Robert D. Zucker, Associate Professor of Aeronautics, has been Academic Associate for Aeronautical Engineering Programs since 1 July 1970. He joined the Aero faculty in 1965 after completion of doctoral studies at the University of Arizona. Professor Zucker is remembered by students for the thorough preparation and organization of his class lectures. His knowledge of academic disciplines and his expertise in educational methodology have served students well also in his role as Academic Associate. He is active in the American Society for Engineering Education, both as a Vice-chairman and member of the Board of Directors, Pacific Southwest Section, and as Director-at-Large in the National Division for Educational Research and Methods (ERM).

CURRICULAR BROCHURES

You can catch up on School activities through the new pocket-size brochures now in the mail to ships and shore stations, giving the latest information on some eighteen different curricula in the School's regular program offerings. If you are not up-to-date with the School, you'll be surprised at some of the changes and the diversity of curricula. Look for them in ready rooms, information centers, libraries, etc. (Aero's is colored blue), or write for copies. The brochures are intended to spread wider knowledge of the opportunities for postgraduate education among eligible officers; you can help by making the existence of these brochures known to them.

ACADEMICS

CONTINUING EDUCATION

The new Office of Continuing Education was established in May 1974, with Professor W. Max Woods as Executive Director (see page 4), to enhance the School's educational effectiveness on campus (e.g., by offering intensive short non-credit courses) and especially to move its services off-campus to meet a variety of needs not heretofore treated. Non-traditional approaches to educational packaging, especially, will be offered as a means to accomplish two primary objectives: periodic updating of acquired education, with close correlation between subject matter and Navy professional application; and preparation for enrollment in graduate NPS curricula. Programs to be offered will include:

1. Off-campus preparatory courses to permit advanced-standing enrollment at NPS -- these will be packaged as self-instructional, utilizing NPS graduates as tutors (the Aero minicourses, described in the article on page 1, are examples).

2. Non-credit short intensive courses for up-date or advanced knowledge, on or off campus.

3. Somewhat longer duration non-credit minicurricula, on or off campus, for more extensive up-date, or to survey a new field of study.

A Continuing Education catalog of these Schoolwide course offerings will be available this Spring to include the thirty-three Aero minicourses previously described plus short courses offered by the Aero Department on Trends in Naval Aircraft Technology, Challenges of New Aircraft Development, Flight Evaluation Techniques for fleet aviatiors, and Laser Weapon Technology. Alumni are encouraged to participate in this program by serving as tutors in off-campus minicourses as well as by enrolling in courses themselves. For further information contact: Office of Continuing Education, Code 500, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, Calif. 93940. Phone (408) 646-2558 or autovon 479-2558.

NEW DOCTORAL PROGRAM (D ENG)

The Academic Council has recently established a program of studies leading to the Doctor of Engineering (D Eng), emphasizing design, development and/or technical management in contrast to the pure research orientation of the existing PhD program. Admission requirements are much the same for the two doctoral programs, and there is no formal differentiation to be observed in course requirements, the latter in each case controlled by individual doctoral committees in preparation for required qualifying examinations. However, the candidate for a D Eng may substitute an internship, of the order of a year's duration at another government or industry organization, in place of the research project of the PhD, leading to a dissertation based upon a creative project consistent with his Naval career motivation. It is furthermore possible, circumstances permitting, to coordinate the internship with the candidate's follow-on duty assignment, realizing a two-fold benefit: correspondingly reduced time in residence at NPS, and more immediate involvement of acquired knowledge in Naval application.

LATE RELEASE

The accolade of Distinguished Professor was conferred on Dr. Allen E. Fuhs at the December 1974 graduation exercises (how many alumni know that we have four graduations a year?). This distinction now rests on three members of the Department, Distinguished Professor Emeritus Wendell M. Coates and Distinguished Professor Michael H. Vavra having received it previously. Our next issue will feature a profile of Dr. Fuhs.

FACULTY PROFILE

DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR M. H. VAVRA

You might hear of Mike Vavra in several ways.

His name could be mentioned by a Captain of the Enterprise or by one of the astronauts as an influence well remembered in graduate work here at NPS.

He might be quoted in conversations between academics and researchers, in Europe as well as in America; they know him as author of the largely theoretical text "Aerothermodynamics and Flow in Turbomachines."

In industry, whether it be jet engines or gas-cooled nuclear power generation, he is widely known as a designer of turbines and compressors, and often sought as consultant. His name will occur frequently in this context.

Or you may hear graduates of the Naval Post-graduate School recalling the stories that punctuate and brighten his lectures -- adventures from a colorful experience in engineering. (Remember how his first axial compressor took care of the Ovaltine for the Swiss Army!). Others will remark simply on the clarity of those lectures, the physical understanding transmitted at a pace for good learning.

Born in Zurich, Switzerland, and educated in that country, Dr. Michael Hans Vavra graduated Dipl Ing as a mechanical engineer in 1934. He received his Diploma with honors with the highest standing in his class, and was awarded the Silver Medal and a cash prize by the Swiss Government for an outstanding thesis. Following another year at the Swiss Federal Institute in turbomachinery research, during which he received a first and second prize in the biennial Prize Paper of the Institute, he joined Escher Wyss Ltd. as a research engineer. During the twelve years to 1947 he worked for six different companies in Switzerland, England, India and the United States. Before joining the DeLaval Steam Turbine Co. in Trenton, NJ, he was Chief Engineer of the Steam and Gas Turbine Division, Ateliers de Constructions Oerlikon in Zurich. It was from DeLaval that Dr. Vavra first joined the Naval Postgraduate School at Annapolis in 1947.

During his 27 years at the Naval Postgraduate School, Dr. Vavra has been prolific in his activities. While becoming highly respected academically, he has continued as a practicing engineer through his research and consulting. He was associated with Dr. Vannevar Bush in some of the earliest development of hydrofoil vessels. For NAEC, Philadelphia, he recently designed the turbo-type energy absorber which is under development for carrier aircraft arresting gears. In addition to his continuing basic research for the Navy in turbomachines, he has been a working consultant for twenty major U.S. companies.

He is a speaker in demand; ask his former students. For the five years from 1964 he was Visiting Lecturer at the Von Karman Institute for Fluid Dynamics in Belgium. Earlier, in 1958, while completing his Doctorate on sabbatical leave, he was a lecturer at the Technical University in Vienna, Austria. He has also lectured in Italy, England and Norway. He became Distinguished Professor in the Department of Aeronautics in 1968.

It is in the role of designer that Dr. Vavra can combine the range of talents developed through his professionally dedicated career. He can combine his depth of understanding of aerodynamics, mechanics, materials and structural design in making the intelligent compromises so necessary in good engineering. Moreover, since he is at the same time a master machinist, what appears in his completed engineering drawings (and he separately details each part) can be made efficiently. This has been demonstrated repeatedly in the extensive testing facilities assembled under his direction and constituting the Turbopropulsion Laboratories of the Naval Postgraduate School. These facilities are unmatched in the graduate university system. Complete turbine and compressor test rigs have been assembled and operated from Dr. Vavra's designs. Research programs dedicated to obtaining improved jet engines for Navy planes are underway under his direction.

It is perhaps interesting that the academics who know M. H. Vavra only through his book are usually unaware of his broad engineering experience. And the engineers from industry who come to him with design problems have often not seen his book, and perhaps would need help in reading it. It is his colleagues and primarily his students, the future leaders of the Navy, who can fully appreciate and learn from the breadth of this most Distinguished Professor.

ON SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT

Professor Louis V. Schmidt is on one-year temporary assignment to NAVAIR headquarters, acting as airplane aerodynamics technology administrator, Code 320D. Lou has his own Twin Comanche, based at Dulles airport, in which he does most of the traveling required for his personal contacts with industry and government labs. He writes that the IFR environment is much different in the east than in California and he's looking forward to bringing his 01 Yankee bird home! Some of the more interesting programs he's involved with are the variable stability X-22A tilt duct airframe at CALSPAN and the circulation controlled rotor program under way at Naval Ships Research and Development Center. The latter, on an existing helo airframe, is rapidly advancing into technology demonstrator status, he says. He's looking, but he still hasn't found anyone able to solve the A-7 stall departure problem or to explain the mechanism of wing rock.

SQUADRON INSIGNIA/PLAQUES FOR HALLIGAN

Two years ago the Curricular Office, faculty offices, and Department Office were moved out of the north end of Root Hall and into new spaces created from the open areas and upper level classrooms in Halligan Hall. Now we are one big family, all together -- students, staff, faculty and technicians -- happily fraternizing in the noise and bustle of wind tunnels, shops, classrooms, study spaces, student center, etc. We are decorating Halligan gradually with a variety of collections significant to naval aviation. Notably missing are squadron insignia. We will welcome and appreciate the opportunity to display your plaque/insignia and will be most pleased, in fact, if we are deluged with them. Currently we are arranging, for example, a suitable exhibit displaying activities in the space program of the seven astronauts who are graduates of the NPS Aero program.

STUDENT PROFILE

JAMES WALTER STURGES

Lieutenant James W. Sturges, USN, is a native of Dothan, Alabama. In 1967 he received the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Radio, Television, and Motion Pictures from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, under the NROTC Scholarship Program. While at UNC, Lieutenant Sturges managed the University's sound recording facility and was Staff Director for the statewide University Television Network during evening hours. In his senior year, he was selected commander of the Midshipman battalion.

He completed flight training in October 1968 and was designated a naval aviator and helicopter pilot at NAS Ellyson Field. He was assigned to Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron THREE and participated in cruises to the North Atlantic and Mediterranean areas. During his tour with HS-3, he was the project officer for the IDF-7 Anti-Ship Missile Defense system first installed on HS-3 helicopters. Additionally, he served as Line Division Officer, Avionics Division Officer, and ASW Officer, and held collateral duties as a maintenance test pilot, instrument check pilot, and aircraft commander check pilot.

Reporting to the Postgraduate School in March of 1972, Lieutenant Sturges completed the two-quarter engineering science refresher and entered Aeronautical Engineering Programs in September. Working in the specialty area of aeroelectronics, he has developed unusual engineering design capability in computer logic and communications circuitry, and is actively supporting the Department's efforts to upgrade its data acquisition capability. Currently he is engaged alone in developing project MIDAS (Microprogrammable Integrated Data Acquisition System), which is supported by funds from both NOL and NAVAIR. During the summer of 1974, Lieutenant Sturges spent an experience tour with Hewlett-Packard, Inc., Automatic Measurement Division, and participated in the design of the 9680 Remote Industrial Measurement and Control System (RIMASC). In eight short weeks at Hewlett-Packard he progressed from "enthusiastic amateur" to "thorough professional," in the opinion of his evaluating supervisor who rated him not only "with the best engineers in the lab" but as having been "an invaluable resource to Hewlett-Packard."

ADMIRAL WILLIAM ADGER MOFFETT AWARD

In June the Admiral Moffett Award, described on the following page, is presented on the basis of academic excellence, quality of thesis and an evaluation of career potential. The Award is sponsored by the Point Lobos Section of American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

RECIPIENTS OF THE ADMIRAL MOFFETT AWARD

1972

Lieutenant Peter T. Roderick, USN, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas P. Rodrick of Brockton, Massachusetts. He attended the United States Naval Academy, was commissioned an Ensign, USN, in June, 1964, and entered the Naval Flight Training Program. LT Rodrick was designated a Naval Aviator in October, 1965, and has flown over three thousand hours in both propeller and jet aircraft. He served with Fleet Composite Squadron Two and Training Squadron Seven prior to reporting to the Naval Postgraduate School in February, 1970.

1973

Lieutenant Commander Philip R. Elder, a graduate of the United States Naval Academy, received his commission on 9 June, 1965. He entered flight training at Pensacola in September, 1965 and received his aviator's wings at NAS Corpus Christi in December, 1966. He served in Patrol Squadron Nineteen from September, 1967 until January, 1970, where he received the Navy Achievement Medal for his contribution in his assignments as Communication Officer and Quality Assurance Officer. He attended the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey from January, 1970 until December, 1972 when he graduated with honors with degrees, Master of Science in Aeronautics and Aeronautical Engineer.

1974

Commander Marle D. Hewett is a Naval Aviator with 15 years of service. He is presently assigned to the Naval Air Test Center, Patuxent River, Maryland, as Head of the Flying Qualities and Performance Branch of the Flight Test Division. CDR Hewett holds a Bachelor of Aeronautical Engineering degree from Rensselaer, a Master of Science in Aeronautics and a Doctor of Philosophy in Aeronautics from the Naval Postgraduate School. In addition he is a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Aerospace Research Pilot's School, Edwards Air Force Base, California. CDR Hewett is a member of the Society of Experimental Test Pilots; the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers; and the Sigma Xi honorary research society.

American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics
Point Lobos Section

Admiral William Adger Moffett Award

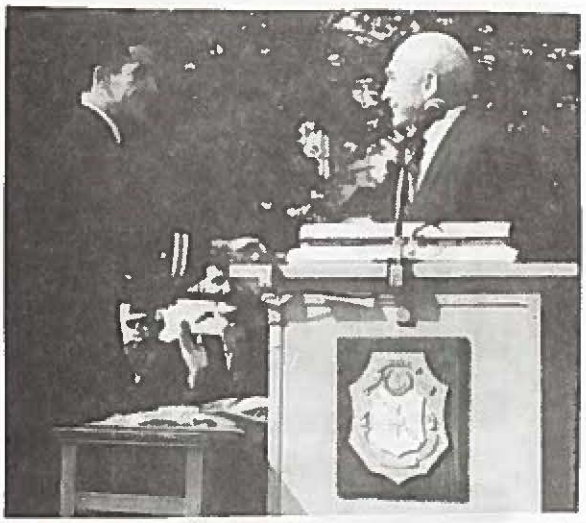
Presented To

given this Year of:

For Academic Excellence in Aeronautical Engineering
Naval Postgraduate School
Monterey, California

Annually the Admiral Moffett Award is given to a student in the Department of Aeronautics. A suitably engraved wristwatch and a Certificate, as illustrated above, is presented. In addition, award funds are used to pay the student's first year AIAA dues. To fund the award, a goal of $6000 from contributions has been established. To date $3200 has been obtained from contributions. An outstanding individual, who normally will be an AIAA member, is requested to make the presentation at the NPS June Graduation Exercises.

Members of the Award Committee are Professor Allen E. Fuhs, Chairman; Professor Oscar Biblarz, Treasurer; Professor Russell Bomberger, Legal Counsel, Professor Robert Zucker, Professor Max Platzer and Professor Donald Layton.



The first Admiral Moffett Award was presented to LT Peter Roderick by Admiral James S. Russell (retired). While on active duty, Admiral Russell, who is a Fellow of AIAA, served as Vice Chief of Naval Operations. He is a member of the Advisory Board for the Award; other members are VADM TGW Settle (retired), LGEN Clayton C. Jerome, USMC (retired) and RADM Robert W. McNitt (retired).

WILLIAM ADGER MOFFETT, who was Class of 1890 of Naval Academy, was born in Charleston, South Carolina, in 1869. Upon commissioning in USN, he served in a variety of sea and shore billets including duty with ADMIRAL DEWEY at the Battle of Manila Bay. In 1913 he was Executive Officer of the USS ARKANSAS and subsequently commanded the USS MAINE, USS NORTH CAROLINA, USS BROOKLYN, and USS CHESTER. While in command of the USS CHESTER, he earned the Medal of Honor at the Battle of Vera Cruz in 1914. The Citation which accompanies the medal states in part, "For distinguished conduct in battle . . . He placed her nearest the enemy and did most of the firing and received most of the hits."

During World War I, CAPTAIN MOFFETT was Commanding Officer of the Great Lakes Naval Training Station and also was Commandant of the Ninth, Tenth, and Eleventh Naval Districts. Following the Armistice, he became Commanding Officer of the USS MISSISSIPPI.

In January, 1921, he reported to the Chief of Naval Operations and in March, 1921, assumed duty as Director of Naval Aviation. He was commissioned the first Chief of the Bureau of Aeronautics with accompanying rank of Rear Admiral. This initial appointment was for four years followed by a second four-year appointment by President Coolidge and a third four-year appointment by President Hoover. ADMIRAL MOFFETT participated in the 1930 Naval Conference in London.

ADMIRAL MOFFETT qualified as a Naval Aviation Observer in 1932. During the latter years of his service as Chief of the Bureau of Aeronautics, he was recognized as more experienced in all types of airplanes, seaplanes, and big airships than "any Admiral in any Navy in the World."

As a result of ADMIRAL MOFFETT'S vision, determination and untiring effort, Naval Aviation grew into a formidable force. ADMIRAL MOFFETT encouraged technical excellence; many of the officers on his staff were the foremost aeronautical engineers of the day. Development of lighter-than-air airships in the United States was largely due to ADMIRAL MOFFETT.

ADMIRAL MOFFETT was killed in a crash at sea of the USS AKRON on 4 April 1933.

Alumni News

attach add'l pages as necessary

Questions and Suggestions

Send me information on tutoring PSI courses ☐

Suggestions for Newsletter Name

Admiral Moffett Contribution

Enclosed is a contribution of $ _____ to the Admiral Moffett Trust Fund (tax deductible).

Name _____

NEW Mailing Address _____

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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